

Application No.: 10/779,532
Applicants: Green et al.

REMARKS

The Claim Amendments

Applicants have amended claim 8 to delete section (f) relating to pyrazole compounds. Applicants have amended claim 11 to recite a pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of the invention or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier. Support may be found throughout the specification. See, e.g., page 44, lines 16-20. Applicants have canceled claims 25-27.

None of these amendments adds new subject matter. Their entry is requested.

Applicants reserve the right to pursue canceled subject matter in this application or in an application claiming priority therefrom.

The Response

The Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §112, First Paragraph

The Examiner has rejected claims 11 and 26 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph. The Examiner contends that the claims are "reach-through claims" and allegedly lack written description and enabling disclosure in the specification.

Solely to expedite prosecution, applicants have amended the claims to delete reference to an amount of a compound of the invention effective to inhibit JNK, thus obviating this rejection.

The Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §102(e)

The Examiner has rejected claims 25-27 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by United States Patent 6,514,977 to Anantaranayan et al. (hereafter "the '977 patent). Specifically, the Examiner states that the instant claims read on compounds disclosed in the '977 patent, including generic structural formula (I), subgeneric formula (X) and Examples A-386, A-387, etc.

Applicants have canceled claims 25-27, thus obviating this rejection.

The Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

The Examiner has rejected claims 25-27, 8 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the '977 patent. Specifically, the Examiner contends that the '977

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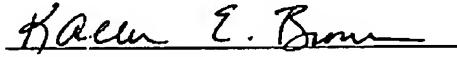
patent teaches a generic group of compounds that embraces applicants' instantly claimed compounds.

Applicants have canceled claims 25-27, thus obviating this aspect of the rejection. With respect to claims 8 and 11, applicants have amended claim 8 to delete compounds comprising a pyrazole central core (section (f) of claim 8). The '977 patent neither teaches nor suggests the compounds comprising an isoxazole, furan or triazole central core as recited in amended claim 8. Further, the '977 patent does not teach or suggest the pharmaceutical composition of dependent claim 11.

Conclusion

Applicants request that the Examiner enter the above amendments, consider the accompanying arguments, and allow the claims to pass to issue. Should the Examiner deem expedient a telephone discussion to further the prosecution of the above application, applicants request that the Examiner contact the undersigned at his convenience.

Respectfully submitted,


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